

TOPLINE
RED EXPRESS 04.02.16

Q1. To what extent, if at all do you trust each of the following sources of information when deciding your position on abortion?

Base; All Adults 18+; n=1,004		Do not trust at all	Do not trust very much	Neither trust or distrust	Trust a lot	Trust Completely	Don't Know
Medical professionals	%	5	6	20	33	36	*
Politicians	%	47	26	20	4	3	*
Church leaders	%	52	17	15	7	9	1
Media outlets	%	26	23	36	9	5	1
Women's rights groups	%	14	12	26	25	22	1
Human rights groups	%	14	10	26	26	23	1
Amnesty International	%	14	10	25	26	19	6
Anti-abortion groups	%	41	22	19	6	10	2
Women who have had abortions	%	10	6	21	25	37	1
Legal professionals	%	18	15	34	17	14	2

Q.2 Which of the following do you think is the criminal penalty for a woman found to have had an abortion in Ireland when her life is not at risk?

Base; All Adults 18+; n=1,004	%
Fine of up to €1,000	9
Prison sentence of up to 5 years	14
Prison sentence of up to 14 years	14
None – it is not a criminal offence	55
Don't know	8

Q.3 Can you tell me on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is disagree strongly and 5 is agree strongly, how much you agree or disagree that these statements are true.

Base; All Adults 18+; n=1,004	Disagree Strongly	Disagree Slightly	Neither agree or disagree	Agree Slightly	Agree Strongly	Don't Know	
The fact that abortion is classified as a crime except when a woman's life is at risk adds to the distress of women who need an abortion	%	17	5	12	14	51	1
The government should decriminalise abortion, which means removing the criminal penalty for women who have abortion in Ireland	%	12	7	9	11	61	*
Under international human rights law, women have a human right to access abortion in Ireland where the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest, where their health is at risk or where there is a diagnosis of fatal foetal abnormality	%	9	3	7	10	70	1
Travelling abroad for an abortion is not especially traumatic for a woman	%	56	9	9	5	19	2

Q.4 Which of the following best describes how you feel personally about abortion in Ireland?

Base; All Adults 18+; n=1,004	%
I am opposed to allowing abortion in Ireland in all circumstances	5
I am in favour of allowing abortion in Ireland only where the woman's life is at risk	7
I am in favour of allowing abortion in Ireland only where the women's life is at risk or where there is a fatal foetal abnormality	7
I am in favour of allowing abortion in Ireland only where woman's life is at risk, where there is diagnosis of fatal foetal abnormality, where the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest, or where the woman's health is at risk	42
I am in favour of allowing all women access to abortion in Ireland as they choose	38
I don't know/have no opinion/Refuse to answer	1

Q.5 I would now like to read out some views that other people have on the topic of abortion in Ireland. For each statement I read out, I would like you to tell me how much you do or do not share this opinion. Please use a scale where 1 means you disagree strongly, and do not share this view at all, and 5 means you agree strongly and share this view completely.

Base; All Adults 18+; n=1,004		Disagree Strongly	Disagree Slightly	Neither agree or disagree	Agree Slightly	Agree Strongly	Don't Know
I feel that I cannot speak freely about my views on abortion because I fear being verbally attacked	%	42	12	16	13	17	*
Men have a responsibility to be part of the discussion on women's right to access abortion	%	16	8	16	19	40	1
We need to trust women when they say they need an abortion	%	10	7	15	17	51	*

Q.6 The 8th amendment was inserted in Ireland's Constitution in 1983, providing for the right to life of the unborn with due regard to the equal right to life of the mother. On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is disagree strongly and 5 is agree strongly, how much do you agree or disagree with each of the following?

Base; All Adults 18+; n=1,004		Disagree Strongly	Disagree Slightly	Neither agree or disagree	Agree Slightly	Agree Strongly	Don't Know
I do not know enough about the 8th amendment to know how I would vote in a referendum and think the media should give better information on it	%	22	11	14	16	36	1
The Government should hold a referendum to allow people to vote on whether or not to remove the 8th amendment from the Constitution	%	10	5	11	15	58	1
I would vote yes in a referendum to remove the 8th amendment from the Constitution	%	15	6	16	11	48	4
I would vote yes to removing the 8th amendment from the Constitution only if there was legislation putting reasonable restrictions on access to abortion	%	20	10	15	20	34	1

Q.7 The following are some statements that other people have made about the topic of abortion, including in cases of fatal foetal abnormality. Can you tell me whether or not you believe each of the following statements to be a true statement or a false statement?

Base; All Adults 18+; n=1,004		True	False	DK
In cases of fatal foetal abnormality, the foetus could survive birth but will die soon after	%	70	24	6
The only way in which the penalty of 14 years imprisonment for an unlawful abortion in Ireland can be removed, is if the 8th Amendment is removed from the Constitution	%	52	37	11
The only way women can be allowed greater access to abortion in Ireland, including on grounds such as such as rape and fatal foetal abnormality, is if the 8th amendment is removed from the Constitution	%	68	25	7

Q.8 If you consider yourself to be religious, what religion are you a member of, if any?

Base; All Adults 18+; n=1,004	%
Roman Catholic	67
Church of Ireland	2
Other Christian	2
Muslim	1
Other	2
Atheist/agnostic	2
None/ I don't belong to any religion	24

Q.9 On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is disagree strongly and 5 is agree strongly, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding how your religion might influence your own views on abortion?

Base; All Adults 18+ Consider themselves religious; n=739		Disagree Strongly	Disagree Slightly	Neither agree or disagree	Agree Slightly	Agree Strongly	Don't Know
As a general principle, my religious views should apply to me and not be imposed on other people	%	10	2	5	14	68	1
Looking at abortion from a human rights viewpoint is useful, because it balances my right to freedom of religion with the rights of women who decide to have abortions	%	14	6	22	19	37	2
I have very conflicted views on abortion because of my religion	%	58	12	10	6	14	*
Base; All Adults 18+ Consider themselves religious and oppose abortion in all circumstances; n=37* <u>CAUTION EXTREMELY SMALL BASE – INDICATIVE ONLY CANNOT BE USED FOR PUBLICATION.</u> <u>MARGIN FOR ERROR IS +/- 16%</u>							
I would never vote for expanded access to abortion because my religion says abortion is unacceptable	%	35	4	17	1	42	1
Base; All Adults 18+ Consider themselves religious and favour abortion to some degree; n=697							
I support abortion in some circumstances but hide it because of how people who share my religion would feel about me	%	49	12	10	12	16	1
I would voice my support for greater access to abortion if high profile religious people publicly supported it too	%	39	11	15	11	23	1